

# The Mail Ego

By Terrence O'Flaherty

"The background music on TV shows may be obtrusive or noisy but it is invariably well played. Are the musicians well paid?"

Yes. The American Federation of Musicians' minimum for instrumental musicians is now \$24 an hour for scoring sessions plus fringe benefits like health insurance, and welfare payments if they're run over by a stage coach or trampled by a leading man.

"I have been watching the beauty pageants on television recently and there are more coming up I hear. I remember when they used to be called beauty 'contests' and I think they still should be. There may be 'pageantry' in formal gowns and trampoline acts but they were a lot more fun when the winners were crowned in their bathing suits. The most embarrassing moment was when the judges couldn't decide where to pin the ribbon."

In this day of foam-rubber contours, it's far more embarrassing when the judge sticks the winner with a pin and she doesn't yell 'ouch!'"

"This season 'Star Trek' one of my favorite shows was taken off. Is there any way that we loyal fans can insure its replacement on the NBC schedule next year?"

No. The time to act would have been in January when the series was marked for extinction. But even then I doubt if NBC was in the mood to

change its mind. The shows' life had already been prolonged for an extra season by fan mail response last year and such miracles seldom happen twice to the same series. By now all the actors in the cast have accepted other assignments and the SS Enterprise has been broken up for firewood.

"What has become of Chita Rivera, the actress who won an Oscar for 'West Side Story'?"

Her experience in "West Side Story" is coming in handy. She's playing the lead role in a modern operetta based on the life of Eva Peron, wife of the South American dictator.

"I have heard the rumor that Darren McGavin — who was so great as Mike Hammer — died recently. Is that true?"

No. It's the reverse. He got divorced.

"If Julie Newmar is six feet tall, how does she ever get anyone but a shorter man to take her out? I'm interested because I'm a man who is 5 feet 2 inches."

There are a lot of tall men in Hollywood but she says tall men are dull because they're too confident. Short men are more interesting to her because they're more aggressive she says — whatever that means. Maybe you can tell me.

"The actor who played Lancelot in 'Camelot' was so good-looking and talented and gentle. What was his name, where is he now, and is he married?"

On Broadway it was Robert Goulet. He's married to Carol Lawrence. In the movie it was Franco Nero and he's not married but he's still going steady with Vanessa Redgrave who played Gwinevere.

"Where was Natalie Wood born? She spoke Russian very well on the Oscar Awards show."

Her real name is Natasha Gurdin. She was born in Hollywood.



**HONORED . . .** Mayor Albert Isen is shown here at the American premiere of the motion picture "Kakatoa, East of Java," in Hollywood last week. With the Mayor is Barbara Werle, one of the stars of the Cinerama film. Isen, Chamber of Commerce President George Ebert, and Chamber Executive Vice President J. Walker Owens were honored during the pre-premiere ceremonies, sponsored by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce to salute civic leaders throughout the Southland.

## Memorial Day Event Scheduled

Civic leaders, veterans, and patriotic organizations will join Friday at 1 p.m. for Memorial Day observances at Civic Center Mall.

"In the tradition of reaffirming the basic values of our American heritage, we wish the observance to be one befitting this great county," Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, honorary chairman of Los Angeles Memorial Day Committee, Inc., said.

Main speaker at the observances will be Goodwin J. Knight, former governor of California, who will be introduced by Hahn.

The program, coordinated by Col. Joseph L. Stromme (USAF-ret.), executive secretary, and James D. Welch, chairman, will feature the Los Angeles Police Department Band, the Ft. MacArthur Color Guard, the Armed Forces Color Guard, and the Ft. MacArthur Firing Squad.

Officer of the day will be Capt. Ted D. Kelly.

The observance will climax with Colonel Stromme reciting the Gettysburg Address and with Supervisor Hahn, Gold Star Mothers, and the Medal of Honor holders joining in a wreath laying ceremony.

### IN 56TH YEAR

On Hope Sunday, June 8, give generously to the free, nonsectarian City of Hope, now in its 56th year.

## Approaching 65?

# Elderly Urged to Learn About Federal Benefits

Every month some persons in the South Bay area sign up late for their Medicare benefits, Miles Davis, social security district manager, said today.

Noting that May has been proclaimed Senior Citizens Month by President Nixon, Davis urged South Bay residents who are approaching age 65 to celebrate by finding out as much as they can about the federal health plan for older Americans.

A person should sign up for medical insurance two or three months before he reaches 65, if he wishes coverage of doctor bills to begin in the month he reaches 65, Davis said. If he waits until later, his medical insurance may not begin until one to three months after he signs up, and if he waits more than three months after he reaches 65, he will not have another chance to sign up for perhaps as much as a year.

For a person who is a social security beneficiary, the basic hospital insurance protection begins automatically with the month of the 65th birthday.

One who is not receiving benefits should check with the social security office two or three months before his 65th birthday about his eligibility.

The Torrance social security

office is located at 1408 Crenshaw Blvd. Davis said that the 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays or those who cannot come in during regular hours.

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## School Aide At Conference

Dr. Robert Morton, assistant superintendent of personnel services for Torrance Unified School District, attended a conference on impasse procedures related to employer-employee relations in public agencies conducted by the National Academy of Arbitration at the International Hotel in Los Angeles, May 9.

Conference topic was "Mediation, Fact Finding, Arbitration, Unit Determination, and Management Rights."

## This is the Memorial Day program at Green Hills Memorial Park, San Pedro.

It begins at 10 a.m. (Friday, May 30) with band music by the Fort MacArthur Army Band, Chief Warrant Officer C. W. Courtway conducting. After that rousing start, 2nd Class Thomas Dorris, USN; Airman Tom Haydon, USAF, and Sgt. Robert L. Reed, USMC, will raise the flag. Commander Jesse Kopp will lead the pledge of allegiance and visiting dignitaries will be introduced by Major Robert L. Kingsbury and Leon Dwight.

After the invocation by Rev. Fr. Lloyd Torgerson of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, the Songsmiths will sing "This Is A Great Country". Chaplain Lt. Col. James H. Fiser of Fort MacArthur is scheduled to deliver the Memorial Address.

The "Lord's Prayer", sung by Barney Spencer, will be the musical background for the placing of a wreath on the sepulcher by Louis Bodahely of the San Pedro Patriotic Societies.

Then Don Matheson of "Land of the Giants" will preside for the presentation by the Fort MacArthur honor bearers of flags for those men who have died in Vietnam.

The United Nations flag, honoring men of other countries who have died for a free world, will be presented to M. P. Chapman, Senior Consul General of New Zealand by Lance Corporal Charles L. Watson, USMC. The salute detail will be from the U. S. Marine Corps and the Fort MacArthur band will play taps.

The Songsmiths will sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and Rabbi Stephen Weissberg will pronounce benediction. At this point, the U. S. Coast Guard helicopter will land to pick up the clergymen who will drop wreaths into the ocean, honoring those of all faiths lost at sea. The program at Green Hills will close with Barney Spencer's singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic".

This is the program, planned for you to remember and honor our men who have died in Vietnam, in Korea, in the Marshalls and the Philippines, in Italy and North Africa, at the Marne and the Argonne Forest, at San Juan Hill and Gettysburg and Bunker Hill. At all these places and many more.

## Summertime Santa

Somewhere in the program will be the kickoff for the "Summertime Santa" project, sponsored by service, civic, church and school organizations of the Harbor area.

You can participate in this part of the program by bringing a personal gift (unscented soap, Jiffy popcorn, small size canned fruits, dried fruits, Kool Aid, salami, tooth paste and brushes, cigarettes, foot powder, combs) for a man on the front lines in Vietnam. The gifts—the kind you usually send at Christmas—will be shipped to Vietnam in July. Green Hills, at 27501 S. Western Ave., will be headquarters for collecting the gifts through June.

If you can't possibly make it to the program, come out anyway just to see the more than 550 American flags flying in honor of the dead of our wars. It's a stirring sight.

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